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Message Text

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14
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /070 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:DCLARE:JD
APPROVED BY ARA - MR. FISHLOW
ARA/BC/C:RDRISCOLL
USOAS:REWHITE
---------- 017506
R 170513Z JAN 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: U.S. PARTICIPATION AT OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REF: A) GENEVA 227 B) STATE 297303

1. U.S. HAS ALWAYS PLANNED TO ATTEND OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ORGANIZATION'S POLICY SETTING BODY, WHEREVER MAJORITY OF MEMBERS AGREED TO MEET. WE HAVE MADE NO STATEMENTS CALLING THAT PREDISPOSITION INTO QUESTION.

2. U.S. ABSTAINED ON VOTE TO ACCEPT CHILE'S OFFER TO SERVE AS HOST TO ASSEMBLY WHEN MATTER DECIDED IN OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL DECEMBER 17. MOTION TO ACCEPT INVITATION CARRIED 17-2 (MEXICO, JAMAICA) -5 (U.S., COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, AND BARBADOS).
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ASSEMBLY TO CONVENE JUNE 10.

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3. U.S. REP MAILLIARD EXPLAINED U.S. VOTE IN STATEMENT CONTAINED REF (B) WHICH BEING REPEATED GENEVA AND USUN. OUR ABSTENTION REFLECTED QTE UNEASE ABOUT PROPRIETY OF HOLDING GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN COUNTRY WHICH HAS FAILED TO ABIDE BY UNDERSTANDING REACHED DURING PREVIOUS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. UNQTE IN MAY 1975, OASGA AGREED UPON MILDLY WORDED RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE WHICH TOOK INTO ACCOUNT CHILE'S WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THEN-IMPENDING VISIT BY UNHRC WORKING GROUP. TEMPERATE LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION DIRECTLY RELATED TO FORTHCOMING AND COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE OF THE GOC TOWARD VISIT. GOC SUBSEQUENTLY DENIED ENTRY OF WORKING GROUP. GOC HAD UNDENIABLE SOVEREIGN RIGHT TO REFUSE VISIT; NONE-THELESS U.S. BELIEVES IT THEREBY DEPARTED FROM TACIT UNDERSTANDING AMONG OAS FOREIGN MINISTERS. ACCORDINGLY, WE ABSTAINED ON VOTE TO ACCEPT INVITATION.

4. RUMORS OF POSSIBLE U.S. NON-ATTENDANCE AT OASGA REPORTED REF (A) LIKELY STEM FROM ERRONEOUS PRESS REPORTS PUBLISHED DURING NOVEMBER. WHILE WE QUESTIONED APPRO-PRIATENESS OF HOLDING ASSEMBLY AT SANTIAGO, AT NO TIME HAVE WE INTIMATED THAT WE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN OASGA. KISSINGER

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